



Memorial Day at our National Cemeteries

by WALDON FAWCETT

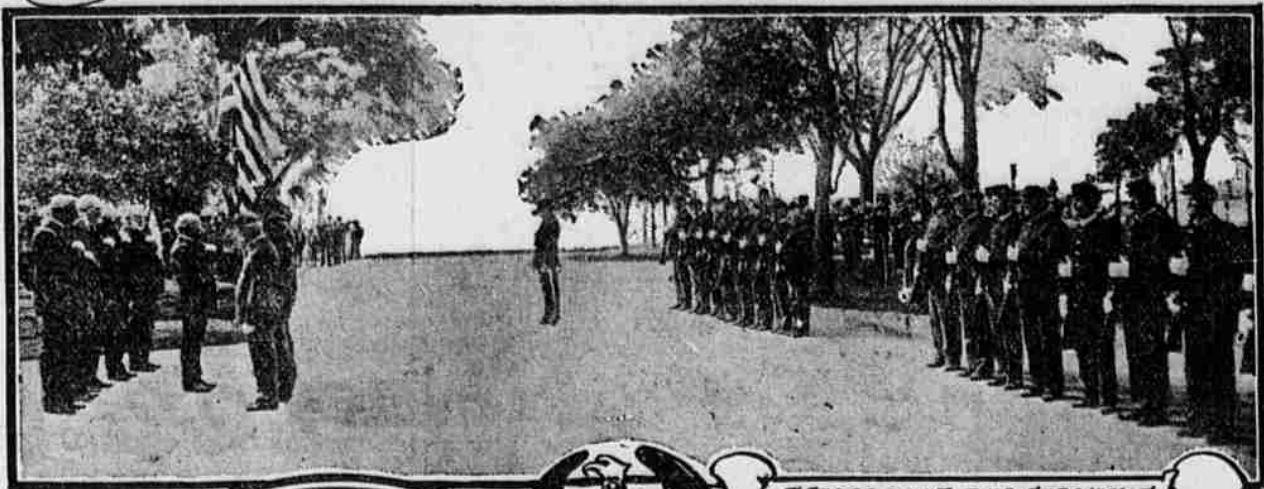


Photographed by
WALDON FAWCETT



THE fact that President Taft saw fit to devote the first Memorial day since his elevation to the office of chief magistrate to participation in the commemorative exercises at the Gettysburg national cemetery serves to focus public attention upon the annual Decoration day observances in our great national cemeteries. Not that it is anything unusual for the chief executive to spend this May day of memories in one of another of the silent camp grounds of the nation's fallen soldiery. On the contrary, the custom observed by practically every president since the Civil war has made it almost an unwritten law that the highest official of the nation shall at this spring festival of remembrance accept some one of the numerous invitations which are always extended to him to unveil some martial monument or act as the principal speaker at memorial services.

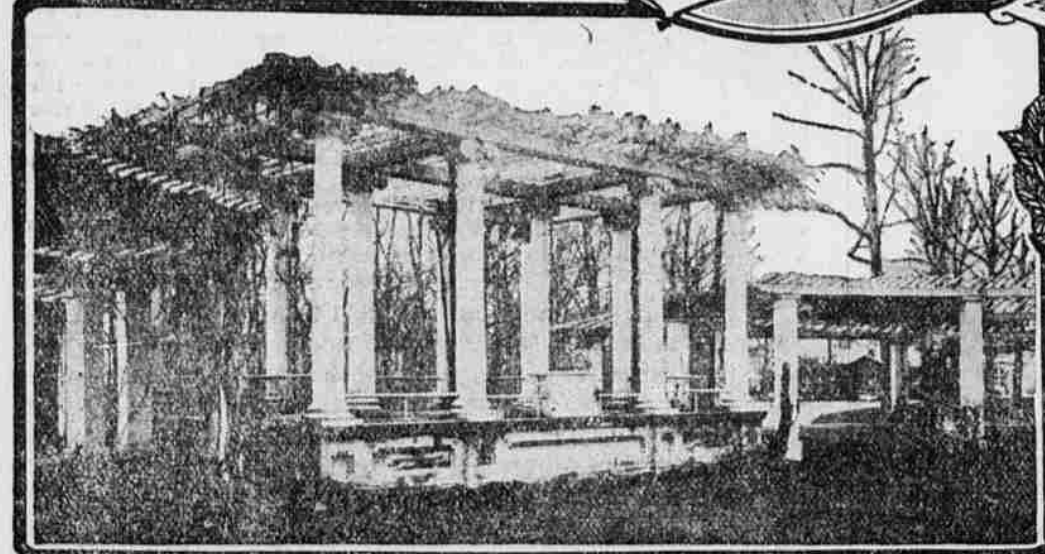
The exceptional interest in the new president's debut as the nation's foremost Memorial day orator arose from the fact that it chanced to be made on the greatest battlefield of the greatest of wars and in the same environment where Abraham Lincoln delivered his most celebrated address—that appeal for "the government of the people, by the people, for the people" which is now read on each recurring Memorial day in every cemetery where a soldier of the Union reposes in his last dreamless sleep. Lincoln's famous visit to Gettysburg although it was not made on the present date of Memorial



MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES
BY CIVIL WAR VETERANS



PRESIDENT Taft
DELIVERING
MEMORIAL
DAY ADDRESS



GREAT AMPHITHEATER AT ARLINGTON

day was in effect for a purpose kindred to that perpetuated by the Memorial day institution. He journeyed to the scene of the decisive battle of the war for the Union in order to dedicate the first national cemetery, pioneer of scores of similar shrines. How closely linked are the institutions of Memorial day and the country-wide cordon of national cemeteries is not generally appreciated. Without the one we would not have had the other and indeed it was from the national cemetery idea that there was evolved its companion thought—Decoration day.

It was in 1863 that President Lincoln formally opened the first national cemetery and the following year—on this occasion the May 30 date that has ever since been observed—he informally opened the second of the national cemeteries, that at Arlington on the Potomac, which has since attained to first rank among all the national burying grounds in point of size and in number of graves. It is at Arlington, it may be mentioned incidentally, that the president of the United States usually delivers his Memorial day address, but there have been numerous exceptions to the custom, along the lines of President Taft's chosen plan for his first presidential recognition of Memorial day.

There was nothing prearranged about that first observance of Memorial day in our second oldest national cemetery. President Lincoln on that eventful May 30, 1864, was merely following his usual custom of devoting the late afternoon to a drive from hospital to hospital in and near the capital in order to carry words of cheer to the sick and wounded soldiers. He was accompanied by Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, who was at that time quartermaster general of the army. It was late in the afternoon when they reached the old Robert E. Lee mansion at Arlington, the last of the improvised hospitals which they had planned to visit that day. Upon their arrival at Arlington the presidential party found preparations in progress for the burial in a distant and already overcrowded cemetery of twelve Union and Confederate soldiers who had answered their last roll call at the hospital.

The matter of instituting a second great national cemetery was then and there hurriedly given consideration and General Meigs, with the sanction of the president, issued the order that the dead awaiting burial should be interred in Arlington. He designated a spot near the historic mansion for these first graves and just at sundown simple services were held as the bodies were lowered into the graves. Since that first informal memorial day the population of America's greatest city of the dead has increased to more than 19,000 and an average of 300, almost all of whom are veterans of the Civil war, are buried here every year. A project is now before

Congress to devote a considerable sum to the erection at Arlington of a great memorial amphitheater—replacing the present artistic but rather unpretentious amphitheater and rostrum—and when this is done the new edifice, seating 5,000 persons, will provide a setting for the annual Memorial day services that will give new significance to the commemorative exercises.

Andrew C. Curtin, the war governor of Pennsylvania, has often been given credit for originating the idea of the national cemeteries, out of which in turn came the proposal for an annual Memorial day. However, the claim in behalf of the executive of the Keystone state is disputed and much evidence has been presented from time to time in support of the contention that the honor in reality belongs to Thomas Brougham Baker, who was at the time of his death a few years ago a clerk in the quartermaster's office at Chicago.

The man who is now hailed as the "father of the national cemetery" was at the outbreak of the war an actor playing in a stock company in Washington, D. C. One day in 1861, riding in the outskirts of the city with his friend, Capt. E. L. Hartz

the pioneer, Baker, the originator of the cemetery idea, was one of the men chosen to lay out the initial cemetery. Not only that, but Baker conducted the first funeral in this first national cemetery and was in personal charge of all the cemetery and mortuary records of the army up to 1869. From this modest beginning the national cemetery idea spread until there are now 83 national cemeteries, with total burials of more than 350,000 soldiers, of which number 150,000 are unknown.

Gen. John A. Logan is usually given credit for having suggested the observance of Memorial day in its present form. Nowhere is there more impressive celebration of each recurring memorial day than in the national cemeteries—located in 30 states and territories and in Old Mexico—even though some of them be situated in localities remote from large towns or cities and none too accessible. Particularly notable and interesting are the ceremonies where the national cemeteries are located in the vicinity of state or national soldiers' homes, making it possible for the old veterans to themselves pay tribute to the comrades who have preceded them to the last camp ground.

ENMITY FORGOTTEN

Capt. S. F. Horrall tells a pretty story of an incident during the battle of Perryville, Ky., on October 8, 1862. Captain Horrall thus relates it: "The Forty-second regiment, by overpowering numbers, was compelled to surrender the ground that had been fought over, back and forth, three times, being held alternately by the Federals and Confederates, thus mixing side by side the wounded and dead of each army. As our men were retiring, Corporal Allen Gentry, of Company H, was passing a wounded Confederate, who asked for water. Though at danger or risk of capture, Corporal Gentry divided his own scanty supply with his enemy of half an hour before. They were no longer enemies. One of my own comrades lay dying near a Confederate. The comrade's thirst slaked, the canteen passed into the hands of a young Confederate, who also lay dying—the glassy look of death in his eyes. He drank the water, the last drop, then—as did the federal soldier—laid his head to rest in the long sleep. "They drank from the same canteen."

Another story told by Captain Horrall brings out a bit of ever-welcome humor in army life. He says: "It is well known that the men comprising the Army of the Cumberland, as others, were reduced

to night tents, or to field tents, shaped and about the size of an ordinary tablecloth. When Chattanooga, Tenn., was besieged by the Confederates the Union army was lined beyond rifle range. The height of our enemy precluded the possibility of doing much damage to them, either by artillery or small arms, but by artillery the enemy bombarded the entire federal lines. Now, the tents were open at both ends, so it happened one day that a 20-pound shell was thrown by the enemy and, entering the tent of a comrade, exploded, blowing the tent tree-top high, earth and all. Two 'boys in blue' were hard by, one the owner of the tent and the other said:

"There, you blanked fool; you see what you get by leaving the tent door open."

AT LAST.

"Pahaw!" exclaimed Miss Yerner, impatiently. "I'm sure we'll miss the opening number. We've waited a good many minutes for that mother of mine."

"Hours, I should say," Mr. Bloman retorted, rather crossly.

"Ours? Oh, George!" she cried, and laid her blushing cheek upon his shirt front.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Are you still breeding scrubs?

The hoe killed the weeds but made little mulch.

If you are ready to plant do not wait upon the moon.

Bolled milk is good for chicks and will help bowel trouble.

Colony houses are of two kinds—stationary and movable.

Where there is a will there is a way to clean the farm of weeds.

Where there is a will there is a way to clean the farm of weeds.

A good farm level costs little compared with its worth and usefulness.

There is something wrong on the dairy farm that does not have a few hogs.

If there is one clean farm in the neighborhood, they can all be clean, or nearly so.

Do not plant trees when the soil is wet and sticky, or it is liable to be packed too firmly.

Feeding the dairy cow is one of the first things that the successful dairyman must thoroughly understand.

Cow-testing associations, started some years ago, have been a wonderful help in weeding out unprofitable cows.

Roots of young trees should never be allowed to become dry. Cover with earth or wet sacks while waiting to be planted.

Whitewash the trunks of the fruit and orchard trees with lime. This will repel borers, bark beetles and other insects for a time.

Plant plenty of hay crops. Work stock and dairy cows must have roughage if they are to do their part in making the farm profitable.

Perhaps the most effective and satisfactory method of making a ewe own her lamb is to place her in a hurdle where she can eat and comfortably lie down.

Ten years ago the quality of the range horses on many of the large western ranches was so indifferent that carload lots sold as low as \$10 a head. Now they will bring \$150.

It will not cost the farmer more than ten cents an acre to select out of his wheat bin the plumpest and heaviest kernels for seed. He will then improve his crop and yield.

Much kindness and respect for animals can be taught children by giving them pets. A pet pony has often taught children valuable lessons about the horse and given them incentives for outing in the fresh air.

We should select our hens from some good flock that is well bred and where the hens have a uniform appearance and then buy a first class rooster from some breeder who has a different strain of the same breed, so as to avoid inbreeding.

The question of the proper amount of seed to sow is never settled. Two and one-half bushels of average oats, sown broadcast, are not too many on average land, average seasons; and about one-half bushel less when drilled in, is looked upon as about right by most oatgrowers.

Common wood ashes, with a few poultry droppings, are a cheap and most approved fertilizer for the grape vines. Too rich a fertilizer, such as stable manure alone, produces a growth so rank that rot is apt to be encouraged, while the flavor of the fruit is impaired by the nature and rapidity of growth.

Thorough tarring of corn will, to a great extent, prevent pulling by crows and blackbirds, but perhaps gophers and ground squirrels would only laugh at it. Moisten the seed with warm water, then stir in coal tar at the rate of a teaspoonful to the peck, being sure to stir until every kernel is black. Dry with ashes, land plaster or slaked lime.

Don't imagine, unless you have an extraordinary large bank account, that you can go out and buy good dairy cows any time you take a notion. The only way to get an efficient herd is to raise your own cows. You may start in by buying some good foundation stock, but when this has been done figure on improving the herd by buying good bulls and raising the heifers from your best milkers.

BRCKE HER UP.



Mrs. L. I. Terary—Mrs. Wise has given up her club.

Mrs. Izit Soe—Why?

Mrs. L. I. Terary—Every time she went to a meeting her husband moved the furniture in the parlor all around.

A SOLDIER'S EXPERIENCE.

Hardships of Army Life Brought On a Severe Case of Kidney Trouble.



H. N. Camp, 1356 Delaware St., Denver, Colo., says: "During the Spanish-American war, I contracted a severe kidney trouble. After returning home, I was under a physician's care for months, but grew gradually worse. Finally I got so bad I could not hold the urine at all. I also had intense suffering from back pains. Doan's Kidney Pills made improvement from the first, and soon I was well and strong."

Remember the name—Doan's. For sale by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

The Quoter.

"You never quote poetry in your speeches?"

"No," replied Senator Sorghum; "quoting poetry is too often like sending an anonymous letter. A man resorts to it when he wants to say something and shift the responsibility of authorship."

The Flannel Shirt Joke.

There used to be a favorite funny paper story about a man who bought a flannel shirt, and every time it was washed it had to be handed down to one of the children until at last the baby was wearing it. Washing flannels used to be a critical task, but now Easy Task soap is used, and it not only does not shrink the goods, but it leaves the garment soft and comfortable as elder-down. Easy Task soap is pure, white and sanitary.

For the Critics.

Creston Clark, whose untimely death at Asheville robbed America of a serious and capable actor, was somewhat impatient of criticism. To a Philadelphia critic he once said:

"You chaps are unwilling to accept a man for what he is. You want to change him to your own taste. But each of you has a different taste. To whose inclination, then, is he to bend?"

"No, no! Take the artist for what he is. That is the right critical attitude. Don't be like the farm urchin I once saw—an urchin who, as he stoned a frog to death, repeated severely: 'I'll larn ye to be a toad.'"

Wedding Fee Counterfeit.

A well-dressed stranger entered the office of Justice William B. Williams, Montclair, N. J., and after shaking hands astonished the justice by saying: "I'm here to redeem that counterfeit \$10 bill I passed on you. Two years ago I called on you with my girl and two witnesses and you married us. I handed you a \$10 bill. I had a counterfeit in my pocketbook that I'd carried for several years. I never missed it until yesterday. Then I remembered that I'd accidentally handed you the bill." The caller produced a good \$10 bill, but the justice refused to take it. "Don't let that worry you, my dear fellow," he laughed. "I never knew it was a counterfeit. No kind of money sticks to me over night. I'm married, myself."

A Breakfast

Joy—

Sweet, Crisp,
Golden-Brown

Post Toasties

Ready to serve from the package with cream—no cooking necessary.

"The Memory Lingers"

Pkgs. 10c and 15c.

POSTUM CEREAL CO., Ltd.,
Battle Creek, Mich.